

PATENT APPLICATION

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re application of

Docket No: Q89566

Yuji MIZUKAMI, et al.

Appln. No.: 10/550,540

Group Art Unit: 3722

Confirmation No.: 5407

Examiner: Not Yet Assigned

Filed: September 26, 2005

For: THREAD CONTROL METHOD AND SYSTEM THEREFOR

**INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT
UNDER 37 C.F.R. §§ 1.97 and 1.98**

MAIL STOP AMENDMENT

Commissioner for Patents

P.O. Box 1450

Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Sir:

In accordance with the duty of disclosure under 37 C.F.R. § 1.56, Applicant hereby notifies the U.S. Patent and Trademark Office of the documents which are listed on the attached PTO/SB/08 A & B (modified) form and/or listed herein and which the Examiner may deem material to patentability of the claims of the above-identified application.

One copy of each of the listed documents is submitted herewith, except for the following: U.S. patents and/or U.S. patent publications; and co-pending non-provisional U.S. applications filed after June 30, 2003.

The present Information Disclosure Statement is being filed: (1) No later than three months from the application's filing date; (2) Before the mailing date of the first Office Action on the merits (whichever is later); or (3) Before the mailing date of the first Office Action after filing a request for continued examination (RCE) under §1.114, and therefore, no Statement under 37 C.F.R. § 1.97(e) or fee under 37 C.F.R. § 1.17(p) is required.

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However, since a statement can be made, a Statement is being filed so that in the event an Office action has issued but has not yet been received by the undersigned, the Examiner will proceed to consider this Information Disclosure Statement.

In compliance with the concise explanation requirement under 37 C.F.R. §1.98(a)(3) for foreign language documents, Applicant advises that the submitted documents were cited in an Office Action of the Japanese Patent Office dated April 20, 2008. A copy of the Japanese Office Action is submitted herewith. A copy of references JPA 58-177252 and JPA 62-99020 cited by the Japanese Patent Office have been previously provided in an Information Disclosure Statement filing of September 26, 2005. A copy of the non-patent literature manual with a partial translation is attached for the Examiner's convenience.

The submission of the listed documents is not intended as an admission that any such document constitutes prior art against the claims of the present application. Applicant does not waive any right to take any action that would be appropriate to antedate or otherwise remove any listed document as a competent reference against the claims of the present application.

The USPTO is directed and authorized to charge all required fees, except for the Issue Fee and the Publication Fee, to Deposit Account No. 19-4880. Please also credit any overpayments to said Deposit Account.

Respectfully submitted,

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WASHINGTON OFFICE
23373
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Date: May 2, 2008

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